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FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY TO: PRESIDENTIAL PARTY FOR RON NESSEN,
GENERAL SCOWCROFT AND ED SAVAGE
SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PARTY FOR DAVID GOMPERT

PRESIDENT'S MARTINIQUE TRIP-1

FOLLOWING IS A REPORT OF FOREIGN MEDIA REACTION AS OF NOON,
EST, DECEMBER 14, 1974, PREPARED BY USIA:

SUMMARY: COMPROMISE WAS THE KEY WORD IN THE LIMITED MEDIA
REACTION REPORTS RECEIVED FROM MAJOR NEWS CENTERS SATURDAY MORNING.
FRENCH PAPERS GAVE THE IMPRESSION THA PRESIDENT FORD WAS READY TO
SERIOUSLY STUDY THE FRENCH IDEA FOR SOLVING THE OIL CRISIS
WHILE WEST GERMAN AND JAPANESE PAPERS TALKED OF A COMPROMISE
AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO NATIONS. END SUMMARY.

PARIS: THE FRANCO-AMERICAN SUMMIT WAS THE LEADING
TOPIC IN THE SATURDAY MORNING FRENCH PRESS. TYPICAL HEADLINES:
"FOR THE FIRST TIME, GISCARD-FORD FACE TO FACE...A SWEET-SOUR
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DIALOGUE," "THE PROBLEMS OF ENERGY WILL BE AT THE CENTER OF THE
GISCARD-FORD TALKS," AND "MISUNDERSTANDINGS TO ERASE."
CORRESPONDENT'S REPORTS GAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT PRESIDENT FORD
WAS READY TO SERIOUSLY STUDY THE FRENCH IDEA FOR SOLVING THE OIL

CRISIS.

MODERATE-RIGHT AURORE DISCUSSED THE U.S. PLAN AND THEN STATED:
"BUT A NEW AND CRUCIAL ELEMENT HAS BEEN INTRODUCED: THE AMERICANS
REPORTEDLY ARE NOW CONVINCED THAT ANY HOPE OF AN
OIL PRICE CUT IS IN VAIN AND THAT IT IS WISER TO ACCEPT HIGH
PRICES AND SEARCH FOR NEW ENERGY SOURCES...ONE CAN WONDER WHAT
GISCARD'S REACTION WILL BE WHEN FORD EXPLAINS -- IF HE REALLY
IS GOING TO DO SO -- THIS 180 DEGREE TURN OF AMERICAN POLICY;
A POLICY WHICH FOR FRANCE WOULD PRESENT NOTHING BUT ENDLESS
PROBLEMS."

IN THE SAME PAPER, YVES BENOIT WROTE THAT, "WHEN ON THURSDAY,
IN BRUSSELS, KISSINGER SAID THAT A CONFRONTATION WITH OIL-
PRODUCING COUNTRIES MUST BY ALL MEANS BE AVOIDED, HE MADE A STEP
IN THE DIRECTION OF THE FRENCH CONCEPT...IF KISSINGER ACCEPTS TO
SACRIFICE SOME OF HIS GENIUS IDEAS TO A GOOD ENTENTE ON BOTH
SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC, A BIG LEAP FORWARD WILL HAVE BEEN DONE.
BUT IF HE ONLY MAKES SOME VERBAL CONCESSIONS TO COME BACK LATER
TO HIS STUBBORN IDEA OF LORDING OVER EUROPE, THE GISCARD-FORD
SUMMIT WILL NOT HAVE BEEN OF MUCH USE.

MIDDLE-OF-THE-ROAD FIGARO'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT JACQUES
RENARD WROTE: "IT IS SINCERELY HOPED HERE (IN WASHINGTON)
THAT THE MARTINIQUE MEETING WILL GIVE A CLEARER IDEA OF THE REAL
FRENCH INTENTIONS. FRANCE AND THE UNITED STATES BOTH HAVE NEW
PRESIDENTS AND IT SHOULD BE TIME TO INNOVATE. THE FRENCH
GOVERNMENT IS DESCRIBED AS POST-GAULLIST...YET, GISCARD SHOULD
NOT FOR DOMESTIC AND ECONOMIC REASONS, STICK TO THE ORIENTATIONS
OF THE OLD-GAULLIST ORTHODOXY. WASHINGTON WILLINGLY ADMITS AND
ACCEPTS FRENCH DESIRE FOR INDEPENDENCE. BUT SOLIDARITY IS
CONSIDERED ESSENTIAL TO FACE THE WORLD CRISIS. WHAT WILL COME
OUT OF THE FRANCO-AMERICAN SUMMIT? LIKELY A COMPROMISE IN THE
APPROACH TO THE ENERGY PROBLEM ... AND IN ANY CASE, A PERSONAL
CONTACT WILL HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED BETWEEN THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE."

INDEPENDENT LE MONDE'S PHILIPPE LEMAITRE FROM BRUSSELS SAID THE
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TASK FOR THE TWO PRESIDENTS IS "TO SET A TIME-TABLE AND TO APPRAISE
THE DEGREE OF COOPERATION WHICH THE OIL-CONSUMING COUNTRIES SHOULD
REACH. MR. KISSINGER, AFTER HAVING REMARKED THAT THE SCOPE OF THE
DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND FRANCE HAD BEEN EXAGGERATED,
REPORTEDLY DECLARED HIMSELF READY TO STUDY THE FRENCH IDEA OF HAVING
A PREPARATORY CONFERENCE FIRST ... THE FRENCH DO NOT WANT THE
FRANCO-AMERICAN RAPPROCHMENT -- HOWEVER NECESSARY IN THEIR EYES
-- TO JEOPARDIZE THEIR PRIORITY OBJECTIVE: THE EARLY CONVENING
OF THE CONFERENCE OF CONSUMERS AND PRODUCERS. HOW
COULD ONE IMAGINE THAT THE OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES WOULD NOT BE
DISTRUSTFUL OF A PROPOSITION OF DIALOGUE WHOSE
OBJECTIVES AND PROCEDURES WOULD HAVE BEEN SPONSORED BY MR. KISSINGER

WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ATLANTIC ALLIANCE?"

THE PAPER'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT HENRI PIERRE SAID THAT IN MARTINIQUE, "A COMPROMISE APPEARS POSSIBLE, ON THE ONE HAND, ABOUT THE CALENDAR OF THE FRENCH AND AMERICAN CONFERENCES, AND ON THE OTHER HAND, ON THE LEVEL OF THE TALKS. WASHINGTON MIGHT AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE TRILATERAL CONFERENCE AFTER A CERTAIN TIME OF PREPARATION IN THE CONSUMERS CAMP, AND IF THIS MEETING WOULD NOT BE HELD AT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS LEVEL, BUT AT THE TECHNICIAN MINISTERS LEVEL INSTEAD. THE MARTINIQUE (MEETING) MUST ALSO CLEAR THE UNCERTAIN SKY OF FRENCH-AMERICAN RELATIONS. THE TIME OF RECIPROCAL RECIMINATIONS AND QUARRELS ON THE CONSULATION IS CONSIDERED AS DEFINITELY GONE."

FINANCIAL LES ECHOS SAID THERE IS "REASON TO BELIEVE THAT FRANCE WILL EVENTUALLY JOIN HER PARTNERS WITHIN THE AGENCY FOR ENERGY WHEN AMERICA GIVES THE GREEN LIGHT FOR THE CONFERENCE OF PRODUCERS, CONSUMERS AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE THIRD WORLD PROPOSED BY GISCARD.

..

BUT MR. GISCARD WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN SOMETHING MORE BY PREVENTING THE AGENCY FROM BEING AN INSTRUMENT AT THE SERVICE OF AMERICAN POLICY."

FRENCH TELEVISION (ORTF 1) REPORTED THAT "EVERYTHING INDICATES THAT THE GISCARD-FORD TETE-A-TETE WILL TAKE PLACE IN A GOOD CLIMATE...MR. KISSINGER HIMSELF CONSIDERS THAT FRENCH AND AMERICAN VIEWPOINTS ON THE ENERGY PROBLEM ARE RECONCILABLE ...HE ALSO FINDS THE RECENT FRANCO-SOVIET CONVERSATIONS VERY POSITIVE."

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BONN: THE GERMAN PRESS HIGHLIGHTED THE POSSIBILITY OF A COMPROMISE BETWEEN U.S. AND FRENCH POSITIONS ON ENERGY POLICIES, SEVERAL OF THEM QUOTING DR. KISSINGER'S STATEMENT AT HIS NEWS CONFERENCE IN BRUSSELS ON RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

RIGHT-CENTER FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE IN A REPORT FROM JAN REIFENBERG IN WASHINGTON SAID "THERE IS CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM IN WASHINGTON THAT GISCARD WILL BE READY FOR COMPROMISE, WHICH COULD PROVIDE FOR A PRELIMINARY CONFERENCE OF HIGH-RANKING OFFICIALS FROM OIL PRODUCERS, CONSUMERS AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HOWEVER, KISSINGER ADHERES TO HIS VIEW THAT SUCH A CONFERENCE MUST BE WELL PREPARED AND THAT LACK OF SOLIDARITY OF OIL CONSUMERS MIGHT LEAD TO ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL CHAOS WITH UNPREDICTABLE REPERCUSSIONS FOR THE ENTIRE WEST. GISCARD MAY POINT OUT TO FORD THAT THE U.S. LAGS BEHIND WESTERN EUROPEAN PARTNERS IN REGARD TO OIL CONSERVATION AND THAT IT IS QUESTIONABLE IN WHAT WAY AND TO WHAT EXTENT THE U.S. WOULD HELP ITS PARTNERS WITH OIL IF ANOTHER MIDEAST WAR DISRUPTED WESTERN EUROPE'S OIL SUPPLY."

LEFT-CENTER SUEDEDEUTSCH ZEITUNG - KLAUS ANRSPERGER FROM FORT

DE FRANCE -- SAID THE "TWO PRESIDENTS WILL TRY TO FIND A COMPROMISE ON ENERGY POLICIES. HOWEVER, IN THE VIEW OF RENCH QUARTERS, IT IS NOT VERY LIKELY THAT THE MEETING WILL PRODUCE COMMITTING DECISIONS. THERE STILL IS FRENCH SUSPICION THAT WASHINGTON MAY USE THE ENERGY CRISIS AS A MEANS OF AMERICAN POWER POLITICS. PARIS ADHERES TO THE VIEW THAT ESTABLISHMENT OF A SOLID FRONT OF OIL CONSUMERS MIGHT LEAD TO A POLITICALLY DANGEROUS CONFRONTATION WITH ARAB COUNTRIES AND THAT IT IS NOT IN THE INTEREST OF EC COUNTRIES TO CHALLENGE ARAB GOVERNMENTS READY FOR COOPERATION WITH WESTERN EUROPE. SUCH FRENCH VIEWS HAVE FOUND MUCH UNDERSTANDING IN BONN AND IN OTHER EC COUNTRIES. VIRTUALLY ALL OF THEM ARE IN FAVOR OF A COMPROMISE BETWEEN KISSINGER'S TOUGH POSITION AND THE FRENCH PROPOSAL FOR AN EARLY CONFERENCE OF OIL PRODUCERS, CONSUMERS AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES."

WEST BERLIN: SATURDAY PAPERS REPORTED SECRETARY KISSINGER'S OPTIMISTIC STATEMENTS IN BRUSSELS REGARDING THE MARTINIQUE MEETING AND SAID BOTH KISSINGER AND SAUVAGNARGUES HAD TAKEN CONCILIATORY ATTITUDES REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF A CONFERENCE OF OIL PRODUCING COUNTRIES. IN COMMENTARY BY ITS WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT, INDEPENDENT

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BERLINER MORGENPOST EXPRESSED HOPED THAT FORD AND GISCARD WILL ESTABLISH GOOD WORKING RELATIONSHIPS, POINTING OUT THAT DESPITE DIFFERENCES IN THEIR BACKGROUNDS, THE TWO ARE RATHER SIMILAR IN THEIR UNCONVENTIONAL WAYS. CITING FRANCO-AMERICAN DIFFERENCES IN REGARD TO ENERGY POLICY, THE PAPER SAID THAT IF A COMPROMISE CAN BE REACHED IN MARTINIQUE, PROSPECTS FOR A JOINT WESTERN OIL POLICY WILL BE MUCH GREATER."

WEST GERMAN TELEVISION: JOSEF DRECKMAN ON THE FIRST NETWORK SAID: "UNDER THE PRESSURE OF ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES, THE NATO PARTNERS HAVE MOVED CLOSER...IN PARTICULAR, THE OBVIOUS RAPPROCHMENT BETWEEN WASHINGTON AND PARIS ON A JOINT ENERGY POLICY."

TOKYO: JAPANESE TELEVISION AND NEWSPAPERS GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE SATURDAY TO REPORTS ON THE IMMINENT OPENING OF THE MARTINIQUE SUMMIT TALKS, PREDICING THAT A COMPROMISE AGREEMENT ON THE ENERGY PROBLEM COULD RESULT FROM THE TALKS. NHK TELEVISION SAID THE TALKS ON THE ENERGY PROBLEM WILL HAVE A MAJOR EFFECT ON JAPAN BECAUSE THIS COUNTRY IMPORTS VIRTUALLY OF ITS OIL REQUIREMENTS.

INDEPENDENT-MODERATE MAINICHI CARRIED A REPORT FROM ITS PARIS CORRESPONDENT WHICH SAID "THERE IS A STRONG POSSIBILITY THAT ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE IN THE U.S.-FRENCH CONFRONTATION ON ENERGY POLICY THROUGH A COMPROMISE AT THE SUMMIT TALKS."

MODERATELY CONSERVATIVE SANKEI STATED, "IT WOULD BE SAID THAT THE SUMMIT TALKS ARE REPRESENTATIVE DISCUSSIONS OF THE OIL CONSUMERS SINCE BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE COMPLETED FULL CONSULTATIONS

WITH THE NATIONS CONCERNED" AND CONTINUED WITH THE COMMENT THAT THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE U.S. AND FRANCE WILL REACH AGREEMENT ON A COMPROMISE TO UNITE THE OIL CONSUMERS.

CONSERVATIVE-FINANCIAL NIHON KEIZAI SAID THAT IN ADDITION TO A COMPROMISE ON THE OIL PROBLEM, PROGRESS IS ALSO EXPECTED ON THE GOLD PROBLEM BECAUSE THE U.S. IS PREPARING A COMPROMISE PLAN WHICH LEANS TOWARD THE EUROPEAN PLAN ON GOLD TRANSACTIONS.
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